

CLAIMS

5 1. A use of a synthetic oligosaccharide which is a selective inhibitor of factor Xa, acting via antithrombin III, for the manufacture of a medicament for preventing blood clotting in patients with an extracorporeal blood circuit.

10 2. The use according to claim 1, wherein the oligosaccharide is the pentasaccharide methyl O-(2-deoxy-2-sulphoamino-6-O-sulpho- α -D-glucopyranosyl)-(1 \rightarrow 4)-O-(β -D-glucopyranosyl uronic acid)-(1 \rightarrow 4)-O-(2-deoxy-2-sulphoamino-3,6-di-O-sulpho- α -D-glucopyranosyl)-(1 \rightarrow 4)-O-(2-O-sulpho- α -L-idopyranosyl uronic acid)-(1 \rightarrow 4)-2-deoxy-2-sulphoamino-6-O-sulpho- α -D-glucopyranoside or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

15 3. The use of claim 2, wherein the pentasaccharide is in the form of its deca sodium salt.

20 4. The use according to any one of claims 1-3, wherein the extracorporeal blood circuit is of haemodialysis patients.

25 5. The use according to any one of claims 1-4, wherein the medicament is suitable for intravenous administration.

30 6. The use according to any one of claims 1-4, wherein the medicament is adapted for use as an anticoagulant coating.

7. The use according to any one of claims 1-6, wherein the medicament is in a unit dosage form.

8. A method of preventing blood clotting in a mammal undergoing a treatment in which an extracorporeal blood circuit is used, comprising the administration to said mammal of a therapeutically effective amount of the oligosaccharide as defined in claim 1 or 2 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

9. A method of preventing blood clotting in an extracorporeal blood circuit, comprising furnishing components of the circuit with a therapeutically effective amount of the oligosaccharide as defined in claim 1 or 2, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.
- 5 10. A pharmaceutical composition adapted for preventing blood clotting in an extracorporeal blood circuit comprising the oligosaccharide as defined in claim 1 or 2, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, together with pharmaceutically acceptable auxiliaries.

A handwritten signature, appearing to read "D. H. A.", is written over the first two claims. It is enclosed in a large, roughly rectangular outline that covers the beginning of both claims.